Aπorney Docket No. 53470.003036 Application No. 09/884,444

## REMARKS

In this preliminary amendment, claims 1, 8, and 14 have been amended. Claims 2, 3, 10, 13, 15, and 19 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 4-9,11, 12, 14, and 16-18 are pending in the aforementioned patent application.

## CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and an early indication of the same is courteously solicited. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone at the below listed telephone number, in order to expedite resolution of any issues and to expedite passage of the present application to issue, if any comments, questions, or suggestions arise in connection with the present application.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper to Deposit Account No. 50-0206, and please credit any excess fees to the same deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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